

In the Specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, please replace line 27 through page 2, line 2, as follows:

A1 --Background. Modern business requires that computing environments become more flexible, easy to use, allow for growth, and in particular, be measurable cost effective. A fundamental element of computing environments is the handling of documents. The concept of a "document" is now much more than just a printed piece of paper. A document can be printed in both black and white color, it can be viewed electronically, it can be archived on removable or fixed storage media, and it can be transmitted electronically. Unfortunately, the traditional mechanisms for delivering documents consist of independent solutions. This problem is characteristic of the current device based paradigm for document delivery. It would therefor be desirable to provide a single integrated solution which allows a network user to deliver his or her document to one or more different destinations or recipients in a single step regardless of the end form in which the document is presented.--

On page 7, please replace lines 9-23 as follows:

A2 --Job parser 20 examines the incoming job for a job ticket and applies default job tickets as requires, then sends the job to routing and affinity

A²
processor 21. Routing and affinity processor 21 determines the capabilities required to complete the job successfully and the affinity of each potential output device for the job. Routing and affinity processor 21 assigns an affinity value to each print job based upon the job size, destination and rendering characteristics by comparing the requested features with the available features logged in resource library 25. Available resources may be gathered and logged into resource library 25 by server 13 automatically by polling the network for resources. Additionally, the information may be manually entered by a user or system administrator or it may be input by a combination of the two methods. The job is then routed to a device specific assembler 22, also sometimes called the 'transform', to change the image data to a device specific form. The image data is then sent to the appropriate output device(s) 16 via a communications channel 23. In addition, the current status of each device can be monitored by the main program via communication channel 23.--

On page 12, please replace lines 28-33 as follows:

W³ --The operators preference is given as a single value from one to ten. A higher value gives a higher affinity. Each of the above factors is weighted so that a priority relationship between them can be enforced. A higher priority factor will take precedence over any single factor with a lower priority, and the sum of all factors with lower priorities. The priority standings are as follows:

1) Collation; 2) Stapling; 3) Folding; 4) Stitching, Drilling, Binding, and Cover

Insertion; 5) Operator Preference; 6) Cost; and 7) Performance.
